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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/500,088	06/24/2004	Mitsuo Ishida	01178US (EKC 89709)	7648
1333	7590	12/08/2005	EXAMINER	
BETH READ PATENT LEGAL STAFF EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY 343 STATE STREET ROCHESTER, NY 14650-2201			GILLIAM, BARBARA LEE	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1752	
DATE MAILED: 12/08/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/500,088

Applicant(s)

ISHIDA ET AL.

Examiner

Barbara L. Gilliam

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 June 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 June 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/12/2005; 11/17/05
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The preliminary amendment submitted June 24, 2004 has been entered and fully considered.
2. Claims 1-15 are pending, of which 12-15 are new.
3. Claims 2-3, 5, 8-9, 10 (as dependent on claims 8-9, 13 and 14), 11 (as dependent on claims 2 and 3), 12-14 and 15 have not been further treated on the merits. See the following rejections under 35 USC 112.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

5. Claims 2-5, 8-9, 10 (as dependent on claims 8-9, 13 and 14), 11 (as dependent on claims 2 and 3), 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for specific intermetallic compounds, does not reasonably provide enablement for any intermetallic compound. The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims.

6. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

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The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

7. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

a. The size of the crystal particles is given in independent claim 1 however, it is not clear what are the actual crystal particles. The specification defines the crystal particles in terms of a material surface layer ([0082]-[0083]) however no such layer is claimed. Further according to the specification the intermetallic compounds crystallize or precipitate in the aluminum matrix ([0042]) and the intermetallic particles form the starting points of the etching pits in the dispersion layer ([0070]-[0072]). Additionally, it is not clear if the dispersion layer and the material layer are one in the same.

8. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the elements. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted elements in independent claims 1 and 6 are: the intermetallic particles and the dispersion/material layer.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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10. Claims 1, 4, 6- 7, 10 (as dependent on claims 6 and 7) and 11 (as dependent on claims 1 and 4) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Suzuki et al. (EP 0 942 071 A1).

a. Suzuki et al. teach a process for producing aluminum alloy substrates wherein an aluminum alloy ingot comprising 0.10 to 0.40 wt% Fe, 0.03 to 0.30 wt% Si, 0.004 to 0.050 wt% Cu, 0.01 to 0.05 wt % Ti, 0.0001 to 0.02 wt % of B, the balance of Al and unavoidable impurities is homogenized at temperatures of 350 to 480°C (abstract). The ingot is hot rolled and recrystallized. The grain size is less than 50 μm in the direction normal to the rolling direction. Intermetallic compounds including Al-Fe and Al-Fe-Si are taught by Suzuki et al. ([0029]-[0031]).

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. In US 2005/0019698 A1, Ishida et al. teach an aluminum alloy plate for lithographic printing form, method of production thereof and lithographic printing form.

b. In US 6,494,137 B2, Sawada et al. teach a support for lithographic printing plate and presensitized plate.

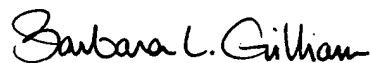
12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barbara L. Gilliam whose telephone number is 571-272-

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1330. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

a. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cynthia H. Kelly can be reached on 571-272-1526. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

b. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Barbara L. Gilliam
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1752

bg
December 2, 2005